

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EPA-01 CEQ-01 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 OES-03 L-03 /065 W

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R 121700Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6743

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

FAA BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK, US

SUBJ: CIVAIR: CONCORDE

1. INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE JAN. 12 CARRIES LONG UPI ARTICLE UNDER WASHINGTON DATELINE REPORTING STATEMENTS BY LEYDEN, PRESIDENT OF US PROFESSIONAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS, URGING CONCORDE BE BANNED FROM US FOR SAFETY REASONS BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE FUEL RESERVES AND LIKELY DISRUPTION OF US AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL PROCEDURES.

2. LE MONDE ISSUE ON SALE AFTERNOON JAN. 12 ALSO REPORTS ABOVE STORY, NOTING THAT ABOVE ALLEGATIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN REFUTED IN PAST BY CONCORDE CONSTRUCTORS AND BY FAA IN ITS EIS.

3. AFP CARRIED ITEM JAN. 12 REPORTING THAT FRENCH NATIONAL SYNDICATE OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS HAD SENT TELEGRAM TO LEYDEN ASKING FOR FULL TEXT OF HIS REMARKS AS WELL AS CERTAIN ADDITIONAL DETAILS, I.E., AVERAGE DELAYS ENCOUNTERED FOR LANDINGS AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DULLES AND AVERAGE DELAYS FOR HOLDING IN EVENT OF

SATURATION OF AIR SPACE.

4. IN BRIEF COMMENTARY SUPPLEMENTING ITS NEWS ARTICLE, LE MONDE WRITES THAT THUS FAR FAA HAS BASED ITS JUDGEMENT ON SAFETY FACTORS RE CONCORDE ON DATA SUPPLIED BY FRANCE AND UK. HOWEVER, IN THE EVENT A US CARRIER WERE TO WANT TO OPERATE CONCORDE, CONTINUES LE MONDE, FAA WOULD RESERVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE ANOTHER HARD LOOK AT THE DATA, WHICH WOULD RISK OPENING A NEW CHAPTER IN A NEW "TRIAL" OF CONCORDE.

5. COMMENT: IT IS NOT CLEAR FROM PARA 4 COMMENTARY ABOVE WHETHER LE MONDE IS AWARE THAT FAA WORK ON US-TYPE CERTIFICATION OF CONCORDE IS ALREADY VERY ADVANCED. ANYWAY, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT SHOULD FRENCH AND BRITISH PERSIST IN SEEKING US-TYPE CERTIFICATION FOR CONCORDE ANOTHER EIS WOULD HAVE TO BE PREPARED FOCUSING ON THAT SPECIFIC FEDERAL ACTION, BUT THE QUESTION OF FUEL RESERVES WOULD PROBABLY COME UNDER REALLY INTENSIVE SCRUTINY ONLY THEREAFTER IN CONJUNCTION WITH AMENDMENT OF US CARRIER OP SPECS FOR USE OF CONCORDE ON SPECIFIC ROUTES.

RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, CONCORDE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JAN 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PARIS00910
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760010-1129
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760166/aaaacgmv.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <25 MAR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: CONCORDE
TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006